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10/28/88

TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, October 27, 1988 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended October 22 totaled an estimated 20.0 billion ton-miles, up 1.7 percent from the 19.7 billion carried in the comparable week of 1987, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 42 weeks of 1988 was an estimated 807.3 billion ton-miles carried, up 6.5 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings originated in the week ended October 22 totaled 454,167, up 3.2 percent from the corresponding week of last year, and up 0.9 percent from the preceding week. Compared with last year, carloadings originated were up 2.1 percent in the East, and up 4.4 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of last year, 11 of the 20 major commodity groups increased. Loadings of metallic ores increased by 5,325 cars (26.9 percent); and chemicals and allied products were up 3,537 cars (13.9 percent). Grain was down 1,678 cars (5.2 percent). Thirteen of the 20 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

Piggyback traffic for the week ended October 15 totaled 121,041 trailers and/or containers, up 8.5 percent from the comparable week of 1987.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 41 weeks of the year was 4,538,428 trailers and/or containers, up 5.8 percent from 1987.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 10/22/88:

	Loadings in Week ended October 22, 1988		Change from Corresponding Week 1987			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	30,713	D	1,678	5.2	D	632	2.0
Other farm products	4,168	D	333	7.4	I	139	3.5
Metallic ores	25,107	I	5,325	26.9	I	2,697	12.0
Coal	126,630	D	116	0.1	D	151	0.1
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	19,439	I	1,976	11.3	D	153	0.8
Nonmetallic minerals	11,072	I	1,119	11.2	I	22	0.2
Grain mill products	10,949	D	272	2.4	I	372	3.5
Food and kindred products	11,932	I	256	2.2	I	188	1.6
Primary forest products	10,052	D	561	5.3	D	81	0.8
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,371	D	523	6.6	I	153	2.1
Pulp, paper and allied products	11,281	D	216	1.9	D	534	4.5
Chemicals and allied products	29,003	I	3,537	13.9	D	353	1.2
Petroleum products	5,215	I	249	5.0	I	299	6.1
Stone, clay and glass products	12,006	I	135	1.1	I	532	4.6
Coke	5,492	D	13	0.2	I	71	1.3
Metals and products	10,075	I	151	1.5	D	17	1.7
Motor vehicles and equipment	22,316	I	574	2.6	I	713	3.3
Waste and scrap materials	10,246	I	337	3.4	I	178	1.8
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	2,422	D	734	23.3	I	37	1.6
All other carloads	88,678	I	4,774	5.7	I	432	0.5
Total Cars Loaded	454,167	I	13,987	3.2	I	3,912	0.9
Corresponding week of 1987	440,180						

	1988	1987	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (42 weeks)	17,891,662	17,097,124	I 4.6
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
41 weeks ended October 15	787.3	738.3	I 6.6
Week ended October 22	20.0	19.7	I 1.7
42 Weeks cumulative	807.3	758.0	I 6.5

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